

I REMEMBER the years 1918-35 as years of wandering—not in the sense of continuous movement from country to country but in a deeper sense. Wherever we lived during those years, the land under our feet was not our land, the language spoken around us was not our language, and, no matter how hospitable and friendly the people were with whom we worked, we were foreigners among them.

The Russian revolution had left a deep impact on the lives of the peoples in the countries to which our wandering took us. We saw the mailed fist of the Communists crush budding democracy in Georgia, in Transcaucasia. We witnessed the rise to power of Mussolini, Lenin's faithful pupil in the art of building and running a police state. And we saw the Communists bring down the Weimar Republic and raise to power another graduate of the same school—Adolf Hitler. Except for the modest help we were able to give our friends in Georgia and Germany in defending their freedom, we were spectators, rather than actors, in the historical drama of that period.

PETROGRAD UNDER THE REDS

The Communists' case against me—conspiracy and armed mutiny against the People's Government—was originally in the hands of a Special Investigating Commission consisting of Anton and another shabby character. Then the Commission was dissolved for some irregularities—whether accepting bribes or straight stealing, I cannot recall—and its unfinished business was turned over to the Commissariat of Justice, then headed by a leftist S-R, Emma, who handled my affairs better than any attorney could have, went to him and challenged him to take my case to the People's Court.

The new courts were modeled after the mob trials of the French Revolution. A jury of soldiers and workers was called up to try persons charged with counterrevolution, sabotage, and treason. The jurors were instructed to follow their "revolutionary conscience" without regard for judicial procedure and law. In insisting that I appear before such a court, Emma had an encouraging precedent in mind. The Commissariat of Justice had brought the former treasurer of our Executive Committee, L. M. Bramson, before a People's Court for his refusal to transfer the Committee's funds—more than three million rubles—to the new government. Bramson courageously insisted that he had used the money for the purpose for which it was intended—to defend freedom and democracy—when he had turned over the funds to the union of public officials striking against the Communist usurp-